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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of  
Norio Sakuma and  
Harushige Ikeda

Serial No.:

Filed: herewith

For: PAPERMAKING BELT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment:

In the specification:

At page 1, before the heading "Field of the Invention",  
insert the following heading and paragraph:

A1 CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is a division of pending U.S. patent application  
serial number 09/366,628, filed August 3, 1999.

In the claims:

Cancel claims 1 and 2, and add the following new claims:

A2 3(new). A papermaking machine having at least one belt  
for transporting a paper sheet along a path in the machine  
wherein the paper sheet is in parallel, juxtaposed relation to